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TRENDS

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, February 6, 1986 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended February 1 totaled an estimated 16.9 billion ton-miles, 0.4 percent above the corresponding week of 1985, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative volume for the first five weeks of 1986 was an estimated 82.8 billion ton-miles, up 5.6 percent from the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended February 1 totaled 362,057, down 0.5 percent from last year, and 6.8 percent below the preceding week. Compared with last year, loadings were up 1.2 percent in the East, and 2.7 percent in the West, but down 7.7 percent in the South.

Compared with the corresponding week last year, 14 of the 21 major commodity groups decreased. However, coal loadings were up 3,172 cars (3.2 percent). Grain loadings showed a decrease of 3,138 cars (12.2 percent). Sixteen of the 21 commodity groups decreased from the preceding week.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended January 25 totaled 95,205 trailers and/or containers, 18.4 percent above last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first four weeks of the year was 345,399 trailers and/or containers, up 15.5 percent from 1985.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 2/1/86:

	Loadings in Week ended February 1, 1986		Change from Corresponding Week 1985			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	22,583	D	3,138	12.2	D	3,727	14.2
Other farm products	4,271	I	506	13.4	D	26	0.6
Metallic ores	11,740	D	1,185	9.2	D	233	1.9
Coal	103,191	I	3,172	3.2	D	15,459	13.0
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	8,607	I	731	9.3	D	1,621	15.8
Nonmetallic minerals	8,351	D	2,066	19.8	D	273	3.2
Grain mill products	10,956	D	157	1.4	I	119	1.1
Food and kindred products	10,813	D	331	3.0	D	650	5.7
Primary forest products	10,615	D	1,447	12.0	D	1,206	10.2
Lumber and wood products except furniture	8,092	I	851	11.8	I	475	6.2
Pulp, paper and allied products	14,009	D	790	5.3	I	353	2.6
Chemicals and allied products	24,393	D	468	1.9	I	146	0.6
Petroleum products	5,052	I	365	7.8	D	82	1.6
Stone, clay and glass products	8,453	D	316	3.6	D	1,036	10.9
Coke	4,090	D	1,047	20.4	D	869	17.5
Metals and products	8,737	D	51	0.6	D	93	1.1
Motor vehicles and equipment	22,632	I	520	2.4	D	959	4.1
Waste and scrap materials	8,329	D	115	1.4	D	871	9.5
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	5,724	D	1,518	21.0	D	40	0.7
All other carloads	61,274	I	4,788	8.5	D	394	0.6
LCL traffic	145	D	110	43.1	I	9	6.6
Total Cars Loaded	362,057	D	1,806	0.5	D	26,437	6.8

Corresponding week of 1985 363,863

	1986	1985	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (5 weeks)	1,780,800	1,689,649	I 5.4

Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):

4 Weeks ended January 25	66.0	61.6	I 7.1
Week ended February 1	16.9	16.8	I 0.4
5 weeks cumulative	82.8	78.4	I 5.6

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